

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an immunogenic A $\beta$  fragment linked to an immunoglobulin carrier molecule to form a conjugate and an adjuvant, wherein the adjuvant enhances an immune response comprising antibodies to the A $\beta$  fragment.
2. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is from the N-terminal half of A $\beta$ .
3. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-5.
4. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 3, wherein A $\beta$ 1-5 consists of the first five N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
5. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-6.
6. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 5, wherein A $\beta$ 1-6 consists of the first six N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
7. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 2, wherein the A $\beta$  fragment is A $\beta$ 1-12.
8. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7, wherein A $\beta$ 1-12 consists of the first 12 N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
9. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises alum.
10. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises monophosphoryl lipid (MPL).

11. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises Quillaja Saponaria Molina (QS21).
12. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises GM-CSF.
13. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the adjuvant comprises M-CSF.
14. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, which comprises greater than 10  $\mu\text{g}$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
15. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, which comprises at least 20  $\mu\text{g}$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
16. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, which comprises at least 50  $\mu\text{g}$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
17. The pharmaceutical composition of any one of claims 1-8, which comprises at least 100  $\mu\text{g}$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the adjuvant is selected from the group consisting of alum, monophosphoryl lipid (MPL), Quillaja Saponaria Molina (QS21), GM-CSF, and M-CSF.
19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, which comprises greater than 10  $\mu\text{g}$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, which comprises at least 20  $\mu\text{g}$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.
21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, which comprises at least 50  $\mu\text{g}$  of the A $\beta$  fragment.

22. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, which comprises at least 100  $\mu\text{g}$  of the  $\text{A}\beta$  fragment.
23. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 18, wherein the  $\text{A}\beta$  fragment is from the N-terminal half of  $\text{A}\beta$ .
24. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein the  $\text{A}\beta$  fragment is  $\text{A}\beta_{1-5}$ .
25. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 24, wherein  $\text{A}\beta_{1-5}$  consists of the first five N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
26. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein the  $\text{A}\beta$  fragment is  $\text{A}\beta_{1-6}$ .
27. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 26, wherein  $\text{A}\beta_{1-6}$  consists of the first six N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.
28. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein the  $\text{A}\beta$  fragment is  $\text{A}\beta_{1-12}$ .
29. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 28, wherein  $\text{A}\beta_{1-12}$  consists of the first 12 N-terminal amino acids of SEQ ID NO:1.